



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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CLASSIC FIGHTERS ROCKET OVER RAMONA

Public Invited to See WWII-era Warbirds at Ramona Airport

Classic Fighters of America (CFA) will conduct a formation flying clinic at Ramona Airport from Thursday to Sunday, March 19 to March 22. The event is intended to provide proficiency training, flying practice and pilot upgrades required by the FAA for pilots who fly in formations, such as at air shows.

"These are very rare and beautiful aircraft that the public generally does not get a chance to see up close very often. It's an extraordinary opportunity to see them all flying in formation," said Bo Donovan, Ramona Airport manager. CFA, an organization of aircraft aficionados, performs at air shows across the country.

"We're delighted this annual workshop is being held at Ramona Airport," Donovan said.

While it is primarily a training clinic, it will also allow the public to view some classic warbirds including T-6s, T-28s, and the famous P-51 Mustang that escorted bombers over Europe and flew missions in the Pacific Theatre, as well as other World War II-era fighters. More than 20 of the fully restored fighter aircraft are expected to be on the ramp at Ramona Airport for the event.

The pilots will attend classroom instruction in the mornings, and then fly practice formations in the afternoons. Normally held in Riverside, the event moved to Ramona this year because of the uncrowded airspace and the airport's long runway and other facilities.

The event is free to the public. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday. Ramona Airport is located at 2926 Montecito Road in Ramona. For more information call (760) 788-3366.